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BOROUGH OF NEWBURY,
RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY
AND HUNGERFORD



Berks South 10

ANNUAL REPORT

of
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(including the reports of the
Public Health Inspectors)

for the year
1960

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RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1960.

There has during the year been a further increase in the population of the Joint Committee area. All four constituent districts have participated in this increase. As can be seen from the second statistical table of this report the rise in the population has in all cases, except Newbury Rural District, been due to migration into the district in addition to an excess of births over deaths. By far the greatest increase is in Bradfield Rural District, the eastern end of which is continuous and contiguous with Reading Borough and is virtually urban in character.

The figures for births and deaths are fairly characteristic of national trends in these rates, but I would warn, as I have on previous occasions, of the dangers of interpreting the figures too literally. Particularly is this true in sparsely populated districts. The figures should be viewed over a succession of years rather than as individual milestones in the districts' health history.

Among the causes of death, diseases of the heart and circulation have retained their position of paramount importance. All too tragically often the person whose life is ended by such disease is in the comparatively early years of life with concomitant family responsibilities and with many potential years of life ahead. The cause and consequently the prevention of such disease has by no means yielded a solution as yet. The stresses and strains of hurried everyday life with the frustrations involved are certainly part of the picture, as also is the more varied diet of the present age, particularly bearing in mind the increased amount of animal fat which is now ingested. Probably too the increased use of tobacco is one of the causative factors. Unfortunately the picture is at present so clouded that it is difficult to give any clear advice to the average person. The confused and many sided picture which he may glean from the press or the radio may well make him feel that to avoid such diseases is beyond his power. Should prevention mean restricting his diet, tobacco and many of the other pleasures of life, he may even feel that is beyond both his power and desire. This is a problem far removed from the sanitary problems of health departments a hundred years ago, but one which is equally vital and one which certainly must be tackled in the years ahead.

Mention of tobacco in the previous paragraph brings to the fore what is by now a perennial in annual reports. Although the number of deaths from lung cancer was in fact lower in 1960 than in 1959 it still far exceeds the number of deaths from tuberculosis. Even so the thought of tuberculosis still evokes greater terror in the mind of "the man in the street" than does the idea of the much greater risk of his own self condemnation by cigarette smoking. Health departments in their endeavour to combat this harmful and expensive habit are faced by the massive powers of the cigarette industry with its repeated and insistent and insidious advertising in the press and on television. I feel that it may be too late to convert the hardened smoker against cigarettes but feel that there is still hope in trying to educate the school child, provided he is caught early enough. In many cases the phrase "early enough" may mean as early at 12 or 13 years old, as many children have by this age already started to ape their cigarette smoking elders.

The notifiable infectious diseases were of little significance during 1960 with the exception of an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery in Bradfield Rural District. This was not connected with the outbreak which I outlined in last year's report. At the risk of being repetitive I would mention again the necessity for insistence on the basic hygienic precaution of hand washing as the first line of attack on this disease. The outbreak was not of the same dimensions as the 1959 outbreak, and this department was fortunate in being notified of its existence at an early stage with consequent easing of the work of your officers.

The other infectious diseases were of no grave significance and Poliomyelitis, which possibly strikes more terror at the mere mention of its name than any other disease, was totally absent from the district. Almost certainly this was due to the immunisation campaign. The very success brings in its trail its own danger in that knowledge of the existence of the disease may become relegated to the back of the public mind and parents may neglect the simple precaution of immunisation and outbreaks of the disease may again occur before the immunisation level can be adequately raised.

This, in fact, has already happened with diphtheria and towards the end of the year a gloomy shadow of this disease was cast over several districts in the country, fortunately not within the Joint Committee area. However, I feel that this is to some extent chance, as even here the level of diphtheria immunisation is lower than we would wish. Nevertheless these outbreaks in themselves do spur the public into further effort. This has been evident as each outbreak has brought a small influx to the offices of your committee enquiring about protection against this disease.

Such activities as immunisation and the educational aspects of health, which I have mentioned briefly above, are some of the continuing and undramatic parts of the work of the health department, and it is only when one summarises the cumulative effects of this work that one can see its true value.

I would finally like to add my thanks to the members of the constituent councils and to my fellow officers without whose advice and help many of the problems would seem to be virtually insoluble.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT HANDY,

Medical Officer of Health.

South Berks Joint Public Health Committee.

SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1961 - 1962

LIST OF MEMBERS

Newbury Borough ... H. K. POTTER, ESQ.
M. W. PAINE, ESQ.
MRS. D. W. SHORTLAND.

Bradfield R.D. MRS. M. P. SHOWERS.
A. H. WYATT, ESQ.
MRS. K. M. BLANFORD.

Newbury R.D. F. HOWES, ESQ., J.P. (Chairman).
F. A. HOLLAND, ESQ.
G. R. BASFORD, ESQ.

Hungerford R.D. MISS C. C. CARDEN.
MAJOR J. W. B. COLE.

Berks County Council ... A. ARBUTHNOTT, ESQ., M.B.E., E.D.
MRS. P. DAVIES.
D. H. PARKER BOWLES, ESQ.

Clerk: L. Southern, Esq., LL.B., Municipal Buildings, Newbury.
(Telephone 109).

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY, RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD

Medical Officer of Health:

R. HANDY, M.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Office, Greenham House, Newbury.

Telephone: Newbury 1144.

Newbury Borough ... J. HAGUE, F.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector,
16, Market Place, Newbury.
(Telephone 446).

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.,

Add. Public Health Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute
and Sanitary Inspectors' Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Bradfield R.D. P. J. WING,
26, Bath Road, Reading.
(Telephone 55581).

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health
as Public Health Inspector.

Newbury R.D. C. J. COOKE, M.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Phoenix House, Bartholomew Street,
Newbury.

(Telephone 2400).

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

S. BURGESS, M.A.P.H.I.,

Add. Public Health Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute
and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

M. E. NORTHCOMBE, A.R.S.H.,

Add. Public Health Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

(Appointed 1st November, 1960).

Hungerford R.D. ... J. E. EDWARDS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.
The Priory, Hungerford (Telephone 29).
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

J. G. CLARKE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.
Certificate of Public Health Inspectors'
Examination Board as Public Health
Inspector.
(Appointed 6th September, 1960).

LIST OF COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

Newbury Borough —
Public Health Committee.
Housing Committee.

Bradfield R.D. —
Public Health and General Purposes Committee
Housing Committee.

Newbury R.D. —
Housing and Public Health Committee.
General Purposes Committee.

Hungerford R.D. —
Public Health Committee.
Housing Committee.
Water Committee.

GENERAL STATISTICS

District	Area in Acres (Land and Inland Water)	Estimated Population	Persons per Acre
Newbury Borough	2,612	20,570	7.9
Bradfield Rural	53,008	26,260	0.5
Newbury Rural	41,660	20,500	0.5
Hungerford Rural	44,817	10,270	0.2
Totals	142,097	77,600	0.5

Area	Births	Deaths	Population Change (+ or -)	Births minus Deaths
Newbury Borough	428	243	+ 240	185
Bradfield R.D.	530	253	+ 1,250	277
Newbury R.D.	383	208	+ 170	175
Hungerford R.D.	170	105	+ 200	65
Joint Districts	1,511	809	+ 1,860	702

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Deaths

The following table shows the totals of births and deaths and the rates per thousand appropriate population. The corresponding figures for 1959 are in brackets.

District	Number of Live Births		Live Birth Rate		Death Rate		Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
Newbury Borough	428	(397)	21	(19.3)	10.2	(11.1)	18.7 (15.1)
Bradfield Rural ...	530	(510)	18.2	(16.5)	10.3	(8.8)	22.6 (17.6)
Newbury Rural ...	383	(346)	18.4	(17.2)	9.8	(9.5)	10.4 (23.1)
Hungerford Rural	170	(160)	18.6	(17.8)	8.9	(8.3)	11.8 (12.5)
Joint Districts	1,511	(1,413)	19.5	(17.9)	10.4	(10.5)	17.2 (17.7)

	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hungerford Rural	Joint Districts
Illegitimate live births per cent. total live births	4.4 (6.5)	6.4 (4.7)	6.0 (6.9)	5.9 (5.6)	5.7 (5.9)

District	Still-births		Total live and still-births		Still- birth rate		Neo-natal death rate
Newbury Borough ...	1	(6)	429	(403)	2.3	(14.9)	11.7 (5.0)
Bradfield Rural	8	(4)	538	(514)	14.9	(7.8)	18.9 (7.8)
Newbury Rural	5	(10)	388	(356)	11.3	(28.0)	2.6 (14.4)
Hungerford Rural ...	1	(4)	171	(164)	5.9	(24.4)	5.9 (6.3)
Joint Districts	15	(24)	1,526	(1,437)	9.8	(16.7)	11.3 (8.4)

District	Early Neo-natal mortality rate		Peri-natal mortality rate	
Newbury Borough	9.3	(5.0)	11.6	(19.9)
Bradfield Rural	11.3	(5.9)	26.0	(13.6)
Newbury Rural	2.6	(5.8)	15.5	(33.7)
Hungerford Rural	5.9	(6.2)	11.7	(30.5)
Joint Districts	7.9	(5.6)	17.7	(22.2)

District	Total Infant Deaths		Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age		Legitimate Infant mortality rate		Illegitimate Infant mortality rate	
Newbury Borough ...	8	(6)	5	(2)	19.5	(16.2)	—	(—)
Bradfield Rural	12	(9)	10	(4)	22.2	(18.5)	29.4	(—)
Newbury Rural	4	(8)	1	(5)	11.2	(24.8)	—	(—)
Hungerford Rural ...	2	(2)	1	(1)	12.4	(13.2)	—	(—)
Joint District	26	(25)	17	(12)	17.5	(15.8)	11.6	(—)

Maternal Mortality

One death occurred during the year under this heading, giving a rate per thousand live and still births of 2.6 for Newbury Rural and 0.7 for the Joint Districts.

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Figures for 1959 are in brackets).

DEATHS:	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Total (all areas)
Tuberculosis respiratory	— (1)	— (2)	1 (—)	2 (1)	3 (4)
Tuberculosis, other ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Syphilitic disease ...	— (2)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (3)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal infections	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Measles	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	2 (—)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8 (5)	7 (3)	2 (7)	4 (—)	21 (15)
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	10 (9)	7 (14)	6 (2)	2 (4)	25 (29)
Malignant neoplasm, breast	4 (9)	8 (3)	3 (7)	2 (3)	17 (22)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	2 (4)	2 (4)	1 (1)	1 (—)	6 (9)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25 (28)	25 (13)	21 (21)	8 (12)	79 (74)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1 (1)	2 (—)	2 (1)	1 (—)	6 (2)
Diabetes	— (1)	3 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	3 (2)
Vascular lesions of ner- vous systems-stroke	45 (69)	33 (28)	35 (26)	17 (17)	130(140)
Coronary disease, angina	34 (36)	48 (37)	29 (29)	23 (20)	134(122)
Hypertension with heart disease	3 (1)	3 (3)	4 (4)	2 (3)	12 (11)
Other heart disease...	38 (39)	23 (30)	42 (23)	11 (8)	114(100)
Other circulatory disease	14 (7)	21 (13)	6 (7)	7 (8)	48 (35)
Influenza	— (4)	— (5)	— (2)	— (1)	— (12)
Pneumonia	15 (14)	14 (10)	6 (13)	2 (4)	37 (41)
Bronchitis	2 (10)	9 (9)	10 (7)	2 (3)	23 (29)
Other diseases of respiratory system	2 (4)	— (1)	5 (1)	3 (1)	10 (7)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	— (2)	1 (—)	3 (2)	2 (2)	6 (6)
Gastritis, enteris and diarrhoea	1 (1)	— (—)	2 (—)	— (1)	3 (2)
Nephritis & nephrosis	3 (—)	2 (2)	1 (3)	1 (2)	7 (7)
Hyperplasia of prostate	— (5)	— (—)	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (8)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Congenital malformations ...	3 (—)	7 (3)	1 (6)	— (—)	11 (9)
Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	20 (14)	24 (23)	15 (22)	7 (5)	66 (64)
Motor vehicle accidents	5 (3)	7 (4)	6 (4)	3 (3)	21 (14)
All other accidents ...	4 (4)	5 (11)	4 (4)	2 (1)	15 (20)
Suicide	2 (2)	1 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	5 (6)
Homicide and operations of war ...	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
All causes	243(275)	253(222)	208(195)	105(102)	809(794)

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified in each district during 1960.

Disease	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Newbury Rural	Total All Areas
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	7	12	6	1	26
Erysipelas	1	—	2	—	3
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	14	93	2	7	116
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	21	1	4	27
Measles	4	108	—	2	114
Whooping Cough	13	86	14	24	137
Food Poisoning	—	—	3	—	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	9	6	6	24
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	—	—	1
* Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—

* This disease became notifiable from the 1st December, 1960.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

These services are under the control of the County Health Department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Newbury Health Sub-Committee is responsible for diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis within the Borough of Newbury.

Immunisation is performed at Child Welfare Centres and by the general practitioners, who are also in the main responsible for smallpox vaccination.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out by general practitioners and also at ad hoc clinics.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1960

Number of Children Immunised against Diphtheria

(Figures for 1959 in brackets).

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
<i>Newbury Borough—</i>				
Primary	241 (246)	41 (31)	2 (1)	284 (278)
Booster	— (—)	11 (4)	104 (34)	115 (38)
<i>Bradfield Rural—</i>				
Primary	283 (373)	20 (62)	21 (23)	324 (458)
Booster	— (—)	7 (11)	105 (68)	112 (79)
<i>Newbury Rural—</i>				
Primary	229 (280)	21 (20)	— (—)	250 (300)
Booster	— (—)	2 (9)	64 (40)	66 (49)
<i>Hungerford Rural—</i>				
Primary	88 (87)	5 (—)	— (—)	93 (87)
Booster	— (—)	2 (1)	18 (6)	20 (7)

The following table shows the total number of Diphtheria Immunisation carried out in the four areas during the last ten years.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
<i>Newbury Borough—</i>										
Under 5 ...	267	223	206	178	215	236	275	270	277	282
5—15	27	53	46	6	8	13	3	1	1	2
<i>Bradfield Rural—</i>										
Under 5 ...	266	251	281	290	261	238	249	383	435	303
5—15	34	41	72	44	79	9	6	—	23	21
<i>Newbury Rural—</i>										
Under 5 ...	168	154	154	84	157	220	200	205	300	250
5—15	4	5	4	3	4	9	1	—	—	—
<i>Hungerford Rural—</i>										
Under 5 ...	78	60	111	114	137	103	94	92	87	93
5—15	1	3	4	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Total	845	790	878	721	861	830	830	951	1123	951

VACCINATION, 1960

(Figures for 1959 in brackets).

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
<i>Newbury Borough—</i>				
Primary	230 (175)	10 (10)	1 (15)	241 (200)
Re-Vaccination ...	— (—)	4 (11)	10 (10)	14 (21)
<i>Bradfield Rural—</i>				
Primary	303 (329)	39 (25)	18 (6)	360 (360)
Re-Vaccination ...	— (—)	4 (5)	16 (14)	20 (19)
<i>Newbury Rural—</i>				
Primary	291 (233)	4 (12)	5 (8)	300 (253)
Re-Vaccination ...	— (—)	3 (8)	27 (17)	30 (25)
<i>Hungerford Rural—</i>				
Primary	84 (95)	— (8)	— (—)	84 (103)
Re-Vaccination ...	— (—)	— (—)	7 (5)	7 (5)
Total	908 (832)	64 (79)	84 (75)	1056 (986)

The following table shows the number of Children who during the past eight years were vaccinated when under one year of age.

District	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Newbury Borough ...	146	113	136	184	171	219	175	230
Bradfield Rural	174	176	232	215	221	309	329	303
Newbury Rural	119	91	140	179	195	191	233	291
Hungerford Rural ...	83	85	97	76	75	110	95	84
Total	522	465	605	654	662	829	832	908

Number of Vaccinations carried out in infants under one year, compared with the annual number of births.

Area	Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	Percentage
Newbury Borough	1958	356	219	57
	1959	397	175	44
	1960	428	230	53.1
Bradfield R.D.C.	1958	460	309	67
	1959	510	329	64
	1960	530	303	57.2
Newbury R.D.C.	1958	329	191	58
	1959	346	233	67
	1960	383	291	76
Hungerford R.D.C. ...	1958	174	110	63
	1959	160	95	60
	1960	170	84	49.4
Joint District	1958	1349	829	61
	1959	1413	832	59
	1960	1511	908	60.1

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1960

Age Periods			Newbury Borough		Bradfield Rural		Newbury Rural		Hungerford Rural	
			Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
10	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
20	—	25	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
25	—	35	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	—
35	—	45	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	55	—	—	3	—	2	—	1	—
55	—	65	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
65 & upwards			1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...		3	1	9	—	6	—	6	—

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis (respiratory and non-respiratory) which have occurred in the four areas during the last eleven years.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1950	54	6	60
1951	54	16	69
1952	42	7	49
1953	52	3	55
1954	37	8	45
1955	43	7	50
1956	60	7	67
1957	44	8	52
1958	35	3	38
1959	25	3	28
1960	24	1	25

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

HOUSING

(This is a copy of the return required by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government).

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

Return for year 1960.

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas

(Housing Act, 1957)

	Houses demolished	Displaced Persons	Displaced during year Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation ...	—	—	—
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—

Not in Clearance Areas.

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957	22	56	22
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the M.O.H. ...	—	27	12
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	—	—	—

B UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	16	43	16
(9) Under Section 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority	28	—
(12) After formal notice under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	—	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	—	—
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	—	—

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

Position at end of 1960:—

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(14) Retained for temporary accommodation:		
(a) Under Section 48	—	—
(b) Under Section 17(2)	—	—
(c) Under Section 46	—	—
(15) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 35	—	—

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year 1960	—	—

Housing Act, 1957.

Sub-standard Housing—Individual Unfit Houses.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of sixty houses during the year, and undertakings by the owners not to re-let twenty houses for human habitation were received.

Twenty-two houses were demolished during the year and another twenty-one were closed and were not re-let for human habitation.

Three houses which had been subject to an undertaking to repair were re-opened, having been converted into one dwelling.

Re-housing.

Forty-nine of the families living in houses which were the subject of action under Section 17(1) were re-housed in Corporation houses during the year, and five other families from houses similarly dealt with found their own accommodation.

At the year end, forty-six families in houses which had been dealt with under the above Section remained to be re-housed.

The table following shows the progress made with the elimination of sub-standard housing since the end of 1955 to the close of 1960:

(1) Houses reported to Committee as unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost	220
(2) <i>Demolition Orders:</i>	
Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made	146
Houses actually demolished	68
Houses vacated but not yet demolished	43
Houses still to be vacated	38
	<hr/> 149*
(3) <i>Closing Orders:</i>	
Houses in respect of which undertakings to close have been accepted	71
Houses vacant and closed for human habitation	60
Houses still to be vacated	8
	<hr/> 68*
(4) Houses under (1) where undertakings to repair have been accepted and works completed	3
	<hr/> 220
(5) <i>Re-housing:</i>	
(a) Tenants from above houses re-housed by Council	121
(b) Tenants found their own alternative accommodation	33
(c) Houses vacant at time of initial report to Committee	20
(d) Tenants still to be re-housed	46
	<hr/> 220

*Three houses were originally the subjects of undertakings to close, but all three were actually demolished.

Rent Act, 1957:

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair was received by the Council, and the works specified in the Certificate which was served on the owner were carried out.

Repair and Maintenance of Dwelling Houses:

Works of repair were carried out at thirty-one houses as a result of notices served on the respective owners, and seventy-four visits were paid to ascertain that the notices — either preliminary or statutory — were being complied with. An additional thirty-two houses were inspected.

Overcrowding:

No new case of overcrowding was recorded, but one case previously reported was still outstanding at the end of the year.

Movable Dwellings — Section 269, Public Health Act, 136:

At the beginning of the year licences to station and use thirteen movable dwellings were issued by the Council. In one instance, the licence was issued to an applicant who desired to use the caravan whilst a bungalow was being built on the site.

FOOD SUPPLIES

Number of visits and revisits paid to food premises 1,003

Details of works completed:

Provision of wash-hand basins	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of constant hot water to wash-hand basins	...				1
Provision of soap, towels, etc.	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of sinks	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of constant hot water to sinks	...	...	...		1
Provision of impervious surfaces to fittings	...	...	...		2
Re-decoration of food rooms	...	...	...	...	2
Provision of first-aid kits	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of sanitary accommodation	...	...	...		1
Miscellaneous improvements, e.g., covering of cutting-up tables, walls, etc.	...	...	...	...	4
					<hr/> 15 <hr/>

Two cafes closed during the year, one of which had caused considerable concern. At another cafe where a notice had been issued under the Food Hygiene Regulations, the works set out in that notice were finally completed. There was a change of ownership at another cafe, and conditions and practices showed an improvement on the transfer.

Works of repair and improvement were carried out at four butchers' premises, and at three other shops, such works had still to be commenced. In one of the cases where the works were completed, the premises had been the subject of a notice under the Food Hygiene Regulations and had been outstanding for some time. In the three instances where works are still required, one business changed hands right at the end of the year and there is every likelihood that the necessary improvements will be put in hand early in 1961; in the second case, plans for the proposed alterations etc. had been approved, and this job also was expected to be started in the early part of 1961, whilst in the third case, works had actually begun just before the year ended.

The small general store where the dirty and untidy conditions were reported during the previous year improved greatly during 1960, and the improvement was maintained throughout the year. During the latter part of 1960 it was noted that fruit and vegetables were being sold from entirely unsuitable premises, i.e., a garage, and after correspondence and interviews with the owners of the business, the practice ceased.

At one public house, works which had been the subject of some correspondence with the owners were completed and a sink and hot water system etc. were installed. Works to bring the kitchen up to a satisfactory standard were also begun at another public house, these also having been the subject of some correspondence with the owners of the property.

Works were also begun to improve the arrangements for the preparation and cooking of meals at one of the schools in the Borough, and these were still in progress at the end of the year.

A sample of sugar which was said to have an unusual taste was brought to the office by a member of the public, and on submission to the Public Analyst for examination proved to contain 2.1% of salt. As the substance was not harmful — only unpleasant — no further action was taken.

Milk and Dairies:

Towards the end of the year one dairy, which had been operating for many years, sold its business to another firm in the town and the dairy premises of the former business were closed. This has cut the number of firms actually delivering milk to the customer down to four.

1960 was the last year in which the Borough Council will issue milk licences, the responsibility for such licensing now being passed to the Food and Drugs authority, who are, in this instance, the County Council.

Bacteriological examination of milk:

Samples	Procured for:	Type of Milk	Total samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Remarks
1	Examination for Tubercle Bacilli	Raw	Nil	—	—	—
2	Methylene Blue Test	... T.T. ... Past.	29 29	26 28	3 1	— —
3	Phosphatase Test	... Past.	29	29	—	—
4	Turbidity Test	... Sterilised	4	4	—	—

All the four failing samples appear to have been isolated instances of mis-handling, etc., at the respective dairies. Each sample was from a different dairy and all the "follow-up" samples were satisfactory, so too much significance need not be attached to the failures.

Bottle Rinses:

	No. of samples taken for examination	Results of examination			Void
		Satisfactory	Fairly satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Hand washed ...	—	—	—	—	—
Machine washed ...	13	13	—	—	—
	13	13	—	—	—

The number of dairies at which bottling was carried out was reduced to one during the year, and, as will be seen in the table above, every test made on the bottles was satisfactory.

Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Ice-Cream:

One hundred and thirteen samples of ice-cream were examined and were placed in the following Grades:

Grade I	...	110 (97.4%)
Grade II	...	3 (2.6%)
Grade III	...	0
Grade IV	...	0

The above results are an improvement on those reported in previous years.

Bakehouses:

A bakery where conditions had not been satisfactory passed into different ownership before the year was out, and advice — which was taken — was given to the new owner on measures to improve the state of the premises. One more bakery and general store closed after many years of business and the premises were demolished.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods in Shops, etc.:

WEIGHTS OF CANNED AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AS
UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	40 lbs.
Canned ham	...	...	...	...	...	145 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	192 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	94 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	450 lbs.
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	120 lbs.
Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	360 lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Tinned food	...	...	...	...	...	681 lbs.
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Total weight condemned — 18 cwts. 79 lbs.						

Slaughter of Animals Acts:

Sixteen slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year, the holders of ten of these being authorised to slaughter all animals, and the remaining six being of a restricted nature permitting the holder to slaughter only the smaller animals.

Meat Inspection:

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL

Classification					Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
(1)	At slaughterhouses	...	...	...	22	2	38
(2)	On retailers' premises:						
	(a) Home killed	...	...	...	—	2	8
	(b) Imported	...	...	...	—	—	27
(3)	Total weight	...	...	...	22	4	73

		Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Totals
Number slaughtered	...	2,700	2,229	2,380	18,665	26,629	52,603
Number inspected	...	2,700	2,229	2,380	18,665	26,629	52,603

*All diseases except
Tuberculosis and
Cysticerci*

Whole carcasses condemned	.....	4	8	12	44	38	106
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	463	717	4	820	2,080	4,084
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis		17.3	32.5	0.6	4.6	7.9	

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	6	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	207	207
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	0.8	

Cysticercosis.

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refri- geration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The slaughterhouse which Messrs. Richards Ltd. had re-opened in Northcroft Lane during 1959, and which gave rise to many complaints from the residents in Northcroft Lane, closed again towards the end of 1960.

Dustbin Survey:

The survey of refuse accommodation provided at domestic premises in the Borough which began in 1959 was completed early in 1960, and of the two hundred and ninety-six (296) houses which were found to be defective in this respect, a total of ninety (90) bins were supplied by the Corporation and two hundred and six (206) by the owners or occupiers concerned. This has, of course, resulted in a general 'tidying-up' of the areas concerned.

Water Supply:

The water supply in the area was sufficient and satisfactory both in quality and in quantity; the only restriction imposed at domestic premises was the use of water from hoses, etc. for garden use or for the washing of cars, and this only during a short part of the year. Practically the whole of the premises occupied for domestic or business use are supplied with water from the public mains, the exceptions being in the case of five houses; the occupants here draw their supplies from wells on their own premises. Examination shows that the supplies continue to be satisfactory.

Under twenty houses are served by water from standpipes, but in each case the house is or is shortly to be dealt with under the Housing Acts.

Public Swimming Baths:

The water used in the only public swimming baths, which are owned by the Corporation, is obtained from a well and is treated by chlorination operated from an automatic supply. The water in the bath is being constantly circulated and thereby aerated.

Bacteriological examination of the water showed that the number of coliform bacilli was 0 per 100 ml.

Sewerage:

The year saw the start of a scheme aimed at substantially increasing the capacity of both the sewage pumping station and the sewage disposal works. The works being carried out at the latter point are part of a larger scheme and are intended to ease the strain on plant which has at times been stretched to capacity.

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, SHOPS, ETC.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 — SECTION 34.

In addition to the work detailed in the tables set out on the following page, ten visits were paid to premises in the Borough with regard to their means of escape in case of fire. In each case, the inspection was made with the co-operation and assistance of the Fire Prevention Officer of the Berkshire and Reading Fire Brigade.

At one factory which was required to provide adequate means of escape in case of fire, the works were completed and the appropriate certificate issued.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Part I of the Act.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	81	103	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	158	507	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	4	5	—	—
TOTAL	243	615	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		(6)
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	—	—

Clean Air Act, 1956:

On various occasions in previous years a nuisance had been reported due to grit and smoke emission from the chimney of one of Newbury's largest factories. During 1960 several new pieces of equipment were installed at the premises, and after these works were completed the situation improved considerably. It is hoped that these improvements will have eliminated any cause for complaint in the future and that the residents in the near vicinity will not again suffer from the consequences of emissions from this chimney.

Complaints were also received that undue emissions of smoke were being discharged from chimneys at two of the town's laundries, and during the year one of the firms concerned changed from coal-fired boilers to automatically oil-fired boilers. The result was an increase in the amount of steam available, and an elimination of nuisance from smoke emissions. In the second instance, daily observations were made on the smoke emissions from the factory and after correspondence with the firm conditions improved until no cause for complaint was evident. Apparently there had been some defective fittings in the oil burners, and when a thorough investigation was made of the plant, these were brought to light and eventually replaced. It is likely that more regular maintenance of the equipment will be carried out in the future.

Smoke Control Areas:

A report was submitted to the Public Health Committee suggesting that the Council's proposed new housing estate on Turnpike Road should be made a Smoke Control Area, and this was approved in principle.

Shops Act, 1950:

Classified list of businesses carried on at shops within the Borough.

Antique dealers	...	...	...	...	...	6
General stores/grocers	...	...	...	...	...	62
Public houses and hotels	...	...	...	...	...	46
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	22
Sweets/tobacconists	...	...	...	...	...	22
Tobacconists	...	...	...	...	...	9
Sweets (sugar confectionery)	...	...	...	...	...	23
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	23
Jewellers and watchmakers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Drapers	...	...	...	...	...	16
Outfitters	...	...	...	...	...	29
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	5
Furniture, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ironmongers/hardware	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	22
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	10
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cycle dealers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Motor sales, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	18
Shoes, leather goods, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	16
Gunsmiths, sports equipment, models, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	5
Gas and electrical appliances, radio, T.V., etc.	...	...	...	...	...	21
Newsagents, stationers and booksellers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers and poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fish friers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Greengrocers and fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Florists	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wine merchants	...	...	...	...	...	5
Photographers and photographic equipment	...	...	...	...	...	7
Toys	...	...	...	...	...	10
Opticians	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
China and glassware	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	6

415 shop premises in occupation at the end of the year.

PEST INFESTATION CONTROL AND DISINFECTION

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Return of work by Rodent Operators.

	Type of property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	21	6,270	5	1,194	7,490
2. Number of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1960 as a result					
(a) of notification (a)	3	225	5	109	342
or (b) otherwise ... (b)	24	194	21	18	257
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats	Major —	—	—	—	—
	Minor 21	358	16	38	433
4. Number of properties (under 3) found to be seriously infested by mice	1	41	5	17	64
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	22	399	21	55	497
6. Number of notices served under Section 4:—					
(1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural works (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	= 31.				

Rodent Control:

The number of agricultural, horticultural and business properties which are under contract to the Joint Committee—Rodent Control for treatment by the rodent operators increased slightly during the year. At the years' end the figures were: Newbury Borough—nine (9), Newbury Rural District—forty-seven (47), and Hungerford Rural District—thirty-two (32), bringing the total for the three districts to eighty-eight (88).

Wasps Nests:

During 1959 the Joint Rodent Control Committee agreed to allow its operators to destroy wasps nests on domestic premises for a charge of not more than 12/6. During the summer and autumn of 1960 a total of one hundred and fifteen (115) visits were made for this purpose, sixty-five (65) of these being to premises in the Borough, thirty (30) in the Newbury Rural District, and twenty (20) in the Hungerford Rural District.

BRADFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies:

Following the survey of areas without mains water mentioned in last year's Annual Report, the Engineer and Manager of the Thames Valley Water Board attended a Meeting of the Public Health Committee to put forward his Board's view.

It would appear that the formation of the Board has not materially altered the position. The main obstacle to supplying mains water to outlying areas is the cost involved, and this cost, less revenue from water rates, must still fall largely on the Local Authority.

In all the areas requiring the service there will be a vast disparity between the water rate revenue and the annual guarantee sum required from the Council, and even allowing for possible grant aid from the Exchequer and the County Council it is obvious that many years will elapse before the remoter areas can be served.

However, a start has been made. Estimates have been obtained for supplying the North Street area of Theale, and this scheme may well be extended to serve Englefield Village also.

36 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year. 22 of these proved to be unsatisfactory. Improvements, either by means of mains connection, or new wells, have been made in respect of 8 of these.

The estimated position with regard to water supplies in the district is as follows :—

	Total		Main Water in House		Main Standpipe		No Mains Supply	
	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation
Aldermaston ...	491	1,571	448	1,433	4	13	39	125
Ashampstead ...	124	397	106	339	9	29	9	29
Basildon ...	332	1,062	325	1,039	3	10	4	13
Beech Hill ...	88	281	78	249	4	13	6	19
Beenham ...	218	697	190	607	10	32	18	58
Bradfield ...	390	1,248	338	1,082	25	80	27	86
Bucklebury ...	680	2,176	614	1,965	29	93	37	118
Burghfield ...	629	2,012	564	1,808	4	13	61	195
Englefield* ...	69	221	—	—	—	—	69	221
Frilsham ...	98	313	79	253	2	6	17	54
Grazeley ...	6	20	4	14	—	—	2	6
Padworth ...	154	492	115	367	2	7	37	118
Pangbourne ...	602	1,926	576	1,843	6	19	20	64
Purley§ ...	676	2,163	498	3,646	18	57	160	460
Stanford Dingley ...	52	166	40	128	4	13	8	25
Mortimer ...	702	2,246	669	2,136	3	10	30	100
Streatley ...	271	867	250	799	3	10	18	58
Sulham ...	31	99	—	—	—	—	31	99
Sulhamstead† ...	432	1,382	365	1,168	12	38	55	176

	Total		Main Water in House		Main Standpipe		No Mains Supply	
	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation
Sulhamstead								
Bannister ...	29	92	24	76	—	—	5	16
Theale	557	1,782	506	1,619	4	13	47	150
Tidmarsh	79	252	69	220	—	—	10	32
Tilehurst	1,336	4,275	1,330	4,256	6	19	—	—
Ufton	67	214	31	99	—	—	36	115
Wokefield	27	86	23	73	—	—	4	13
Yattendon	89	284	86	275	—	—	3	9
Total	8,229	26,260	7,328	23,428	148	475	753	2,359
%			89%		1.8%		9.2%	

**Englefield*

The village of Englefield is served by a private main from a deep bore. Water is taken into the houses. Samples have proved satisfactory.

†Sulhamstead

About 60% of the houses without mains supply are served by private mains from deep bores. Samples have proved satisfactory.

§Purley

A new water main has recently been laid to serve the Purley Park River Estate. Approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of the dwellings in the Estate have already been connected, and it is proposed to serve Notices under the Water Act, 1935, requiring the connection of the remainder.

Refuse Collection:

A new tip was commenced at Bradfield during the year. This followed the closing of the Pangbourne tip. The new tip is very deep, with steep sides, and as such is not ideal. However the initial difficulties with regard to access have been largely overcome.

A second Paxit 21 cu. yd. lorry has been brought into use, replacing a 12 cu. yd. side loading lorry. The extra capacity of the new lorry will obviate the necessity of a fourth lorry for a while. The fleet now consists of 2 Paxit diesel lorries, one 12 cu. yd. side loader, and a tractor with dozer blade and shovel for tip work. A weekly kerb-side collection is maintained throughout the district.

The collection of salvage has now been discontinued as it proved to be uneconomic. This move, however, has given rise to another difficulty. In the past salvage has been collected from trade premises, this must now be counted as Trade Refuse, and a charge made.

At the latter end of the year attention was given to the new 'paper sack' collection system. At first sight this appears to be costly, and would seem to present difficulty at the tip. However, further information is to be obtained so that a fair assessment may be made. One of the major attractions of the scheme, especially in an area of full employment, was expressed by a Swale Rural District Council dustman and reported in 'Municipal Engineering.'

"There has been a terrible drift away from rubbish collection as a job. This system will help to keep the lads with us for a bit."

This Council has, so far, been fortunate in maintaining a full staff, but some of the men are approaching retirement age, in fact, one is well over, and replacements may well prove a problem in the future.

Sewage Disposal:

Bucklebury.

The extension to the Bucklebury sewer along Little Lane is now complete, and consideration is being given to a further extension to serve existing and proposed development in the "Three Crowns" area. This new proposal will necessitate enlarging the works in order to cope with the additional flow.

Pangbourne.

The Bere Court Road extension is complete and the Tidmarsh Road extension is well under way. With the completion of these two schemes approximately 95% of the houses in Pangbourne Parish will have the sewer available.

Purley.

The Ministers decision with regard to this scheme is awaited. Some difficulty is being experienced in the siting of one of the pumping stations, but this should be resolved fairly shortly.

Burghfield.

The preliminary "paper work" in connection with the proposed Burghfield scheme is almost complete, and it is anticipated the site work will commence in 1961.

Beenham.

In view of the long delay in starting work on this scheme, revised tenders are to be invited. The subsoil is heavy clay, and drainage difficulties are being experienced by householders in the area. A proposal to build a small housing estate is being delayed because of the lack of adequate sewage facilities.

When the schemes mentioned above have been completed approximately, 5,700, or 68% of the houses in the district will have the main sewer available.

Areas still requiring the service in some degree of urgency will be:—Englefield, Stanford Dingley and Padworth.

Caravans:

Present day problems require present day remedies! This fact has been all too obvious in the years since the war when trying to cope with the increasing caravan problem with legislation made over 20 years before.

Now that the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 is law, it is possible to accelerate the work of bringing caravan sites up to a reasonable standard, and, where necessary, closing them. This will bring its own problems. A caravan site is not just a group of caravans, it is a group of families, and these families must have a place to live. This must place a moral obligation on the Local Authority to ensure that alternative accommodation is available before closing or 'running down' sites. This Authority is aware of the obligation, and is seeking suitable

land to develop as caravan sites. The present proposal is to have two sites, one north and one south of the Bath Road. It was not known, at the end of 1960, how large the sites would have to be, or the best locations for them. This will be decided when the picture is clearer.

There was a decrease of 23 in the number of licensed caravans from last year. The total at 31st December, 1960, being 414. Of these 346 are on licensed sites, and of the remaining 78 individual licenses, 20 are occupied by employees of the land owners, and 19 are occupied pending completion of permanent dwellings. The majority of the latter group will not require licensing under the new Act.

One site of 20 caravans was closed during the year, the land being purchased by a builder for housing development.

Food Premises:

It was possible, this year, to devote more time to routine food hygiene inspections. This aspect of the Public Health Inspector's work is one of the most important, but as routine work must give precedence to specific complaints and enquiries, sufficient time is often not available.

There are still a few sub-standard food premises in the district, but the number is decreasing, and it is hoped that by the end of 1961 all will conform to the structural requirements of the regulations. Although food handling processes and methods have improved considerably it is felt that more education is required, both for the food trader and the public, before full hygienic measures become automatic in the food shop.

There are now 175 food premises in the district, made up as follows :—

Grocers/General	...	...	...	...	...	68
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	11
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	8
Caterers (Licensed premises, Clubs, Works canteens, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	77

Milk:

37 licences to sell designated milk were issued during the year, as follows :

	T.T.	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Dealers	10	10	2
Supplementary	5	6	4

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1960, the County Council, as Food and Drug Authority, have become the licensing authority for dealers in designated milk.

Registrations Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

(a) Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	71
(b) Manufacture of Sausages, etc.	...	...	...	18

Seven premises were registered for the sale of Ice Cream during the year.

Rodent Control:

The following table shows the work carried out by the Rodent Control Staff :—

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business & Industrial	Total	Agri- cultural
1. No. of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification ...	—	111	11	122	6
(b) Survey under the Act	38	4,007	233	4,278	291
(c) Otherwise	—	51	16	67	1
2. Total of inspections carried out (includes re-inspection)	237	4,284	464	4,985	327
3. No. of properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major) ...	4	27	29	60	82
(Minor) ...	16	197	44	251	29
(b) Mice (Major) ...	2	6	6	14	2
(Minor) ...	—	—	—	—	—
4. No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority ...	21	125	52	198	74
5. Total treatments carried out:— includes re-treatments	53	280	207	540	396
6. No. of “Block” Control Schemes carried out	—	—	19	—	—

HOUSING TABLE

Number of Dwellings Erected:

1. By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	47
2. By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	363

Inspections of Dwellings during year:

1. (a) Number of houses inspected ...	...	...	...	...	316
(b) Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	924
2. Number of houses found unfit and not capable of repair at reasonable cost ...	...	...	...	...	21
3. Number of houses found unfit but capable of repair at reasonable cost ...	...	...	...	...	310

Remedy of Defects:

1. Number of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	19
2. Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action	Nil
3. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	14
4. Number of dwellings on which Demolition Orders or Closing Orders were made	16
5. Number of Undertakings to repair	1
6. Number of dwellings in Clearance Areas	Nil
7. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance or Re-development Orders	Nil

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Grants Authorised:

	Owner Occupier	Tenanted Houses	Total
(a) Discretionary ...	38	41	79
(b) Standard	15	12	27

PETROLEUM, ETC., STORAGES

Licensed Premises:

Petroleum				Other Storages	
For Resale		Private		Cellulose	Carbide of Calcium
Electric pumps	Manual pumps	Electric pumps	Manual pumps		
33	2	10	18	2	1

Many of the garage and filling stations also store a small quantity of cellulose.

Before renewing the storage licences for the year 1960, the Council required the applicant to obtain a certificate from a qualified electrician to the effect that the premises complied with the 'electrical' conditions of the licence.

Canal Boats:

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number inspected	...	...	...	...	Nil

Public Swimming Baths:

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—1959

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	16	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	75	39	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	3	3	—	—
TOTAL	92	58	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		prosecutions were instituted (6)
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	1	—	—	—

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prose- cutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel—						
Making, etc ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	—	—	—	—	—

HUNGERFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Public Health Inspector

In this Annual Report for 1960 I am able to mention that the Council have now achieved one aim which is to provide a weekly collection of household refuse throughout the whole of the rural district. Previously some outlying parts had endured a fortnightly collection or even worse, a monthly one. I feel sure the ratepayers have appreciated this action of the Council, as very few complaints are now received with regard to refuse collection.

I feel it should be mentioned that the general standard of containers used for refuse has improved, which may have been helped by the scheme run by the Council for the hire of dustbins, or the fact that the refuse staff have informed occupiers of the unsuitability of the containers by affixing 'stick on' labels.

Towards the latter half of the year the Additional Public Health Inspector was appointed and some of the back-log of work has been cleared up.

A survey of the domestic accommodation throughout the district has been commenced (now completed) and when it is completed a list of properties considered suitable to be dealt with under second 5-year term of Slum Clearance should be available.

One point which has already become very evident, is that a substantial number of sub-standard properties are occupied by older persons, and it would follow that should these dwellings be demolished the number of old peoples dwellings in proportion to the total dwellings provided must be increased.

Summary of Number of Visits Made during the year:

Number of visits under Housing Acts	1,051
Number of visits under Public Health Acts	421
Number of visits under Petroleum Regulations	53
Number of visits made to Food Premises	393
Number of visits under Factories Acts	52

The reason for the large majority in the number of housing visits over the remainder is the survey commenced towards the end of the year to get an accurate picture of the extent of the Slum Clearance problem in the district.

Water Supplies:

In March this year the public main supplies were taken over by the Thames Valley Water Board, these included the council's Lambourn Valley scheme, the Hungerford Water Works and the mains belonging to the Newbury Corporation supplying Kintbury and Inkpen.

Despite this change, however, the day-to-day work is still being done by the same staff and under a temporary agreement the Council continues to handle queries, collection of water rates etc. from consumers.

Table showing estimated number of dwellings having:

Parish	Piped Water Supply	Est. Pop.	Well Supply	Water carriage drain- age system (including septic tanks)	Pail Closets
Combe & West Woodhay	56	168	—	51	5
East Garston	121	466	31	95 %	—
Inkpen	209	777	50	80 %	—
Kintbury	483	1941	164	98 %	—
Lambourn I.L.A.	651	2448	—	95 %	—
Lambourn O.L.A.	164	552	20	75 %	—
Hungerford	1100	3300	—	80 %	—
East Shefford	27	90	3	75 %	—
West Shefford	163	670	27	75 %	—

Piped supplies are available throughout the district as under:

Parish	Supply Authority
Combe and West Woodhay	Private piped Estate Supply
Kintbury (Elcot)	Private piped Estate Supply
Kintbury — prev. Newbury Corporation ...	Now T.V.W.B.
Inkpen—part, prev. Newbury Corporation ...	Now T.V.W.B.
Inkpen—part, prev. Hungerford W.W. Co. ...	Now T.V.W.B.
Hungerford — prev. Hungerford W.W. Co. ...	Now T.V.W.B.
Hungerford Newtown—Hungerford R.D.C. ...	Now T.V.W.B.
Leverton Village	Private Estate Supply
Lambourn (including Upper Lambourn and Eastbury) — Hungerford R.D.C.	Now T.V.W.B.
Shefford — Hungerford R.D.C.	Now T.V.W.B.
Lambourn Woodlands—Hungerford R.D.C. ...	Now T.V.W.B.

Samples:

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples taken from Public Supplies.....	4	0
Samples taken from Private Supplies ...	8	4

Sewerage:

Sewers and sewage disposal are provided and maintained in the following parishes:—

Hungerford — Combined gravity and pumping scheme.

Lambourn and Eastbury

East Garston

Shefford

Kintbury

}

Combined gravity and pumping scheme

In addition a number of small disposal plants are provided throughout the district to deal with isolated or small groups of dwellings.

During the year final details of the proposed improvements to the Hungerford disposal works were prepared and submitted to the various boards concerned for approval.

A small alteration has been suggested by the Thames Conservancy and this is being put in hand so that it should be possible to obtain approval during early 1961.

During the year justified complaints, were received of offensive discharges and resultant smells from newly constructed drainage systems in the Folly Road area of Inkpen. 1961 would appear to be the testing time as the majority of the newly erected dwellings will then be occupied.

Refuse Collection and Disposal:

During the year the system was reorganised to give a weekly collection throughout the district. That this is appreciated by the general public is evidenced by the almost total lack of complaints.

The tractor purchased to cope with the increasing work of levelling and covering the tip, was brought into use during the year and has proved its worth.

The life of the refuse tip at Lower Denford is fast drawing to a close and in the very near future, i.e. early 1961, it will be necessary to haul all Town Refuse to the new site at Avington.

The track serving this pit, which is some distance from the road, is not all that it might be, and in all probability will require some works during 1961/62 if not before.

Bin Hire Scheme:

An increasing number of the Public are becoming aware of the scheme started by the Council in 1959 and are making use of the facilities offered.

Rodent Control:

With the exception of wasps' nests, for which there is a small charge, treatment of domestic premises is free, but a fixed hourly rate is in operation for business premises.

At the end of the year there were 32 contracts in operation covering 39 premises in the district.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Rodent Operatives under the Joint Committee Scheme.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Total of Col. 1, 2, 3.	Agri- culture
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	15	2,721	393	3,129	397
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	—	43	10	53	20
(b) Otherwise	4	39	—	43	23
3. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major)	—	—	—	—	10
(Minor)	4	74	7	85	32
(b) Mice (Major)	—	4	2	6	1
(Minor)	—	—	—	—	—
4. Number of properties treated	4	78	9	91	43
5. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	8	238	28	—	129

No notices were served, or action taken in default: and no legal proceedings were found necessary.

Several complaints were received of heavy infestations of 'cluster fly' and whilst it has proved almost impossible to trace the sources of the trouble, a cure, in some cases only temporary, was effected relatively easily with the conventional D.D.T. "Smoke bomb."

Offices Act:

Under the new offices Act the Minister has power to make regulations as to the working conditions prevailing in offices. This legislation has been needed for some time and it is hoped that it will lead to the improvement of the standard of office accommodation which at the moment is quite often ill-lit, overcrowded and lacking hot water systems, etc.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

On 1st December, 1960, the control of means of escape in case of fire passed from the Council to the Fire Authority.

Factories and Workplaces:

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	22	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	34	30	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	49	52	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	1	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	1	1	—

FOOD AND DRUGS

Milk and Dairies:

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, issue of licences permitting the sale of milk passed from Local Councils to the Food and Drugs Authority, in our case the County Council.

Previous to the 1.10.60 (the date of operation of the Regs. referred to above) the number of dairymen licensed by the Council stood at 4.

There are also 4 shops in the district who were licensed for the sale of milk. In these cases, however, the milk is not delivered but merely sold over the counter.

As there is no County Public Health Inspector the supplies continued to be sampled as before and details of analyses are given below:—

Samples taken for Submission	Type of Milk	Total No. of Samples	Result	
			Sat.	Unsat.
Methylene Blue	T.T.	4	4	—
	Pasteurised	28	28	—
Phosphatase Test	Pasteurised	28	27	1
Turbidity Test	Sterilised	1	1	—

Sale of Food:

Number of Food Premises.

Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Caterers (including licensed and Industrial)	...	...	...	...	...	43
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	17
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	23
Total						112

Mobile Shops:

In addition several mobile shops operate throughout the district although they are with one exception based outside the area.

Type of Business	Number of Vehicles
Wet Fish	1
Fried Fish and Chips	2
Fried Fish and Chips and Snack Bar	1
Grocery and Provision	2

Unfit Food:

The amount of food condemned as unfit is very small, particularly so now that the slaughterhouse has virtually closed down.

Disposal depends on the nature of the product but is either incineration or by burying.

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Liver (Imported)	27 lbs.
Canned Ham (Imported)	2 lbs.
Canned Pork (Imported)	4 lbs.

Bakehouses:

All 5 bakehouses in the district are small village bakeries, baking being done by the proprietor, and the general standard of cleanliness, etc., is good.

Not included in the above list of bakers one cafe in the district does bake all its own cakes and 'fancies' whilst not producing bread.

Slaughterhouses:

No proposals have been received to bring the one remaining slaughterhouse up to the required standard and whilst it remained licensed during the year the butcher concerned purchased the great majority of his meat "off the hook."

If and when the abattoir proposed by the Joint Committee is built then the requirements of the whole area will be provided for.

Manufactured Meats:

Number of premises registered for manufacture of sausages, etc.	6
Number of Inspections	15

Ice Cream:

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district, all retailers being registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

Number of premises registered	37
Number of Inspections	98

Samples were taken during the year and graded as under:—

Number of Samples	Grade I
20	20

HOUSING

The scheme for the provision of a further six houses at Bockhampton Road, Lambourn, was completed in January; on the Priory Estate, Hungerford, the six bungalows were completed in February and 2 shops and 2 flats in August. Another 6 houses were built at Craven Close, Kintbury. Of the remainder, work was started on a further 10 dwellings in Hungerford (Priory Estate), and 8 more at Kintbury. Modernisation of about half the Council's pre-war houses has been completed and schemes are in preparation for the remainder.

In addition several blocks of property which would otherwise undoubtedly have become the subject of Housing Act procedure, have been purchased by agreement and are being brought up to standard.

Slum Clearance:

Progress has been maintained on the programme embarked on in 1955 and with the end of the year the estimated figure was within sight.

1961 will see the start of a second 5-year programme to deal with the slum clearance problem, but progress is hampered at the moment by lack of dwellings for rehousing families displaced by Slum Clearance.

Rent Act, 1957:

Number of applications for disrepair Certificates ...	1
Number of Disrepair Certificates issued	1
Number of applications for revocation of Certificates ...	Nil
Number of Certificates in force at the end of the year	1

Improvement Grants:

Little use is being made of the new "Standard Grant" possibly because most of the schemes submitted are too comprehensive and appear "tailor made" for Discretionary Grant.

For the same reason the number of applications for the latter remains fairly constant, 50 being received and approved.

Movable Dwellings:

With the coming into operation of the Caravan Sites (Control of Development) Act 1960, the legislation governing sites is revised and strengthened.

Model standards are laid down by the Ministry but these are only the minimum requirements and it is emphasised in the Act that there is nothing to prevent the Council from attaching to licences such additional conditions as are deemed necessary.

It is not expected that there will be any great increase in the number of caravans sited throughout the district as this has been fairly constant over the past few years.

Petroleum:

This year before the licences were renewed a certificate as to the state of the wiring, etc., of electrically operated pumps was obtained from all occupiers of licensed premises.

At the end of the year the number of premises on the register was 65.

Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1937:

Periodic visits were made to the premises in the area licensed for swill sterilising. No infringements of the regulations were found.

NEWBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Water:

This year the various supplies of mains water were assimilated by the Thames Valley Water Board. The district is well supplied with piped water, only a few scattered or isolated houses being without a main supply, and the quality and quantity of the supply has been satisfactory. Five samples have been taken, after chlorination, for bacteriological examination, and all were satisfactory. A further fourteen samples were taken from wells serving private houses and, where necessary, appropriate action was taken. The following table shows the position in the various parishes :—

Parish	Population (Mid 1960)	Number of Houses	No. of Houses supplied with Mains Water*
Boxford	510	166	112
Brimpton	547	162	113
Chieveley	1,966	459	384
Cold Ash	1,675	437	424
Enborne	442	162	138
Greenham	860	216	207
Hamstead Marshall	221	73	44
Leckhampstead	435	113	109
Midgham	438	107	67
Shaw-cum-Donnington	2,110	592	568
Speen (Lighting Area)	1,520	{ 180	178
Speen (Non-lighting Area)		{ 211	115
Thatcham (Lighting Area)	7,841	{ 1,917	1,864
Thatcham (Non-lighting Area)		{ 201	103
Wasing	45	16	12
Welford	710	211	171
Winterbourne	242	69	30
Woolhampton	768	146	79
	20,330	5,438	4,718

A small number of houses are supplied by means of standpipes, but no precise figures are available.

Sewerage:

Work has commenced during 1960 on the Cold Ash sewerage scheme and it is anticipated that the Woolhampton sewerage scheme will be commenced in 1961.

Refuse:

A weekly collection of refuse from all the district has continued throughout the year. The refuse is taken to one control tip at Pound Lane, Thatcham, where controlled tipping is carried out.

Food:

There are 69 food shops in the district where the following commodities are sold :—

Groceries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Bread and confectionery (7 bakeries)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Wet fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fried fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sweets and chocolates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

There are also 12 unlicensed caterers and 39 hotels and public houses. All the food shops have been inspected during the year, and in the Thatcham area there has been an increase in the number of shops selling groceries.

During the period, another 5 premises were licensed for the sale of ice-cream, bringing the total to 64. Five butchers are licensed for the manufacture of sausages.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the estimated amount of meat condemned. The figures in brackets relate to 1959.

	Number of Animals slaughtered	Number of whole Carcasses condemned	Total weight of meat condemned (in pounds)
Pigs	9,469 (9,938)	2 (5)	3,790 (2,504)
Sheep	195 (1,464)	— (—)	2 (136)
Calves	32 (63)	1 (—)	20 (—)
TOTAL	9,696(11,465)	3 (5)	3,812 (2,640)

Caravans:

Towards the end of 1959, the report "Caravans as Homes" was presented to the Minister of Housing and Local Government by Sir Arton Wilson, K.B.E., C.B., and in 1960 the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act was enacted. Subject to certain exemptions, a person may not use land for a caravan site without a licence, and under Section 5 of the Act, the Minister has specified Model Standards with regard to the layout and the provision of services, facilities and equipment for caravan sites.

The conditions of future caravan licences will be based on the Model Standards and it is expected that by the end of 1961, there will be a marked improvement in the standard of the larger caravan sites.

During the year, 6 families from caravans were re-housed in Council houses.

Rodent Control:

Treatment carried out in this district under the joint scheme with Newbury Borough and Hungerford R.D.C., is set out below :—

	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling houses (incl. Council Houses) (2)	All other (incl. business premises) (3)	Totals of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agri- cultural (5)
1. Number of properties in L.A.'s district	25	5,302	431	5,758	398
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	1	146	23	170	16
(b) Survey under the Act	8	152	5	165	46
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ...	43	503	49	595	539
4. Number of properties inspected (in Section 2) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major)	—	7	1	8	20
(Minor)	9	278	10	297	26
(b) Mice (Major)	—	—	—	—	—
(Minor)	—	11	6	17	14
5. Number of infested properties (in Sect. 4) treated by L.A. ...	9	290	17	316	60
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	27	296	29	352	208
7. Number of notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	11	—	—	—	—

HOUSING

The task of dealing with unfit houses continued during the year when six houses were dealt with formally under the Housing Act. Two of these houses are to be modernized by means of grants, three are to be eventually demolished to make way for new buildings, and the sixth one is standing empty and will not be re-let in its present condition.

Number of new Dwelling Houses built:

(1) By local authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	32
(2) By private persons ...	...	...	...	...	...	138

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

(3) Total number of dwellings inspected under Housing and Public Health Acts	839
(4) Number of visits made for the purpose	911
(5) Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable expense	6

Action taken during the year:

(6) Number of Statutory Notices served requiring the execution of works	Nil
(7) Number of dwellings made fit in consequence of Statutory Notices	Nil
(8) Number of dwellings made fit in consequence of informal action	49
(9) Representations made to Council with a view to receiving house-owners' proposals	6
(10) Houses closed after undertaking by owner not to re-let as a result of (9)	2
(11) Demolition orders made as a result of (9)	1
(12) Number of houses demolished as a result of (11) ...	Nil
(13) Number of houses demolished as a result of informal action	19

Improvement grants for modernisation of private houses:

Discretionary grants	44
Standard grants	5

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

Part I of the Act

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspection made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	38	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	75	41	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND — NIL

